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DEF. DOC. # 1300

Translated by Defense Language Branch

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

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.R.KI, Sadao, et al

Sworn Deposition (Translation)
Deponent; -- GENDA, Minoru

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country I hereby depose as follows.

Address : Care of Uyeda, 147 Higashi Kojima-machi, Nagasaki. Birth: August 16, 1904

1) Brief personal career.

November 1936 Lieutenant Commander, Staff officer of the 2nd Combined Air Force.

November 1940, Commander, Staff officer of the 1st Air Squadron. October 1944, Captain, Staff Officer of Imperial headquarters.

2) Carour at the front since the beginning of the China Incident.

Early September, 1937 Arrived in Shanghai.

From September, 1937, to December 20, 1937

On duty in Shanghai.

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From about December 20 to January, 1933. On duty in Nanking.

January, 1933 Returned to Japan.

Throughout the foregoing period I was a staff officer of the 2nd Combined Air Force.

3) The strength and chain of command of the air force to which I was attached at the time of my tenure.

The 2nd Combined Air Force was under the command of the 3rd Fleet. Its commanding officer up to December 14 or 15, 1933 was Rear Admiral Minami. After the "Panay" incident he was succeeded on December 14 or 15, 1933, by Rear Admiral Tsukahara. Under the command of the 2nd Combined Air Force were the 12th and 13th Air Squadrons.

In the 13th Air Squadron there were 12 fighters and 13 bombers.

Later 6 attack planes were added.

There were 12 fighters, 12 bombers and an uncertain number of attack planes in the 12th Air Squadron. The bace was in Shanghai, and later a liaison office was set up in Changchow.

A) The military objectives of our air force at that time were to bomb

Nanking, collaborate with the military operation, and to bomb the

Hankow and Nanchang airfields. The purpose of Nanking bombing was

to destroy enemy fighting planes and principal military installations,

etc. The principal military establishments were airfields, vital

government offices (wireless actions, general headquarters,

nationalist government nationalist government broadcating station,

etc.) communications facilities, railway stations. Heiakuan electric

light plant

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and the Yuhuatai and Shihtzushan batteries. I was engaged in this campaign from September 19 to September 25, 1937. From about the early part of January 1933, we attacked airfields in Hankow, Nanchang, etc. In these bambings we used fighter planes to support the 1st Combined Lir Force bambers.

Soon after the said supporting attack of our air units commonced. I left Nanking and was assigned to duty in Japan proper.

During this period we continued to collaborate with military operations, but the targets of our attacks were trenches at the front line, onemy camps and trucks engaged in transportation to the front line.

54 During the China Incident the bombings of the Japanese Naval Air Force were carried out in accordance with the "Standards of Aerial Warfere" and "Miscellaneous Regulations Pertaining to Bembing" provided in July, 1933, and September, 1933, respectively. There were sent to the all units by the central authorities.

The various regulations and precedents concerning the current attack objectives were considered, and bombing was restricted to purely military objectives. Cities themselves, whether fortified or not, were never made objects of attack.

Even in the case of an objective which was clearly military, if an attack on it was likely to cause serious damage to the general populace or ... if it was difficult to ascertain the location of the objective, we refrained out of humanitarian feelings from making attacks.

Also in our bombings we were scrupluously careful with respect to

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third powers and propert. belonging to third power nationals and their rights not only in the international settlement and in the Japanese residential section but also outside the concessions. Because of this our air force was very much restricted in their attack operations and suffered considerable disadvantage and damages.

- 6) Particularly, in order to respect the rights of third powers the General Naval Staff received maps showing the various foreign interests in the combat zone. These maps were distributed to the lowest units, and received the most careful consideration.
- 7) Also, before starting out or a bombing expedition the squadron commander instructed all subordinates concerning the bombing objectives were and strictly forbade the bambing of any other objectives.
- 8) During the time I was there the quality of the air squadron pilots was good. They had an average of about 500 hours of flying time, and two to three years had elapsed since they had become pilots. Therefore they were in a position to recognize objectives, and their bombings were good and precise.

On this 20 day of <u>December</u>, 1936, at <u>Tokyo</u>

DEFONENT /S/ GENDA, Minoru (seal)

I, L.A.G.W., Tatsue hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Dependent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this Witness.

On the same date, at Tokyo.

//itness : /S/ INLG.w., Tatsus (seal)

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In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/S/ GENDA, Minoru (seal)

Translation Certificate

I, Charlie S. Terry of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/S/ Charlie S. Torry

Tokyo, Japan Date April 21, 1947

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